ABSTRACT

Method for controlling a motorized door of a vehicle to allow for non-motorized operation in including monitoring the torque on the motor or force or torque exerted on the door and disengaging the motor from the door when the torque or force is above a threshold. Optionally, the velocity of the door can be monitored and the motor re-engaged with the door when the velocity of the door is zero. An apparatus for controlling a motorized door of a vehicle to allow for non-motorized operation includes a motor releasably coupled to the door for opening and closing the door, a torque sensor for measuring the torque on the motor, torque or force on the door, and a processor coupled to the torque sensor and the motor for analyzing the measured torque or force on the motor or door relative to a threshold and disengaging the motor from the door when the torque or force is above the threshold.